

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 remain under active prosecution in the present application. Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are supported by the original disclosure and do not introduce new matter. Moreover, Applicants further respectfully assert that the amendments merely clarify the scope of the claims.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants request amending the specification to insert an omission in the Brief Description of the Figures with regard to FIG. 13, which is fully supported by the description in the Detailed Description at para.[0074] et seq as originally filed and by the drawings as originally filed. With this inserted paragraph for FIG. 13, then the brief description for the following figures has to be revised to renumber them to correspond with the drawings.

In response to the Office Action, dated June 24, 2004, relating to the above patent application, please consider the following response.

In the above-mentioned Office Action, the Examiner has asked that the Applicant make an election between the following seven species:

- a) Species I as shown in Figure 16.
- b) Species II as shown in Figure 17.
- c) Species III as shown in Figure 18 and 19.
- d) Species IV as shown in Figure 20.
- e) Species V as shown in Figure 21.
- f) Species VI as shown in Figure 22.
- g) Species VII as shown in Figure 23.

Applicants elect Species I of FIG. 16 respectfully with traverse. Applicants note that the Examiner deemed claim 19 generic. Applicants assign claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12 to read upon Species I; claims 3, 13 to read upon Species IV; claims 4, 14 to read upon Species III; claims 5,

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15 to read upon Species VI; claims 6, 16 to read upon Species II; claims 7, 17 to read upon Species V; claims 8, 18 to read upon Species VII; and claims 19-21 to be generic as already noted.

Applicants respectfully assert and request reconsideration by the Examiner that independent claims 1 and 9 are also generic. In particular, "each support plate including an end springedly engaged to a frame" would read upon species of a support plate that is springedly engaged at only one end or at both ends and moreover would read on the various versions of this springed engagement (e.g., spring, spring finger, resilient material).

Conclusion

Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact their representative, David Franklin at (513) 651-6856 or dfranklin@fbtlaw.com.

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

<p align="center"><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that a copy of this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MS Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on</p> <p><u>July 21</u>, 2004</p> <p><u>Elizabeth A. Middleton</u></p> <p>Elizabeth A. Middleton</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

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